

Term 1 Newsletter (Hedgehog Class)

Dear Families,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a restful summer together and that children are excited for the year ahead. We can't wait to get stuck in teaching Hedgehogs. If you have any quick questions or concerns, please feel free to chat to Alice or Sam at the door, or for a longer discussion, please email info@somerdaleet.org.uk and we will arrange a time. We are here to help!

The Year Four team:

Alice Owen	Sam O'Regan	Jan Smith/Lisa Garasto	Jo Devine	Becky Howell
Class Teacher	Class Teacher	LSA	LSA	PPA
Mon-Weds	Thurs-Fri	Mon-Fri	Mon-Fri am	Weds 2-3:30

Enquiry Questions this term:

What impact do we have on our local area?

How do we use electricity?

This term we have a geography and science focus. In geography, we will be looking at the impact of urban landscapes on the environment through pollution etc, learning about clean air zones and what we can do to help. In science, we will be constructing simple circuits and exploring different conductors and insulators.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular at these rights:

Article 12: Children have the right to give their opinions freely on issues that affect them. Adults should listen and take children seriously.

Article 15: Children can join or set up groups or organisations and meet with others as long as this does not harm other people.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website.

[Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(Y4\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

Spelling

Children are expected to log in to Spelling Shed and play the games set as Assignments by their teacher. A new spelling list and set of assignments will be set each Monday after followed by a spelling quiz the following Monday in school.

The focus for spelling patterns are found on our medium term overview (see above link). Please follow the link on the overview to see the word lists for each week.

[Spelling Shed Home Use \(For weekly spellings including interactive games\)](#)

[Access Letter](#) [Join at home to practice letter formation and spelling.](#) Available on desktop, laptop and tablet.

Maths

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, the expectation is that children practise their time tables at home. In Year 3 we learn 36 facts. In Year 4 we learn 21 more facts.

Year 3: 2x, 5x and 3x.

Year 4: 4x, 6x, 8x, 7x, 9x, 11x, 12x

[TTRS for Key Stage 2](#)

Your child has a log-in for Times Table Rock Stars so that they can practise their time tables at home.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise number facts at home.
<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

[Early Years](#) [Year 1](#) [Year 2](#) [Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#) [Year 6](#)

[Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6](#)

[Busy Things](#) also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Reading Records

Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children reading 4 times or more get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.

School Clothing Guidance

Please see the [page on our website](#) for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

Library Day

Our Library Day is on **Friday**.

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

PE Day

Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**.

On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose-fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.

Class Assembly Date

Keep the date in your diary! Our class assembly for this academic year is on:

Year 4: Monday 1st February

Please read the whole school newsletters regularly as they include other important dates.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Bookbag with reading record and reading book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.)
- Filled Water Bottle
- For Year 3 - 6, a piece of fruit or vegetable
- Library book on library days (Thursday)

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In Key Stage Two, children need to bring a piece of healthy snack for breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.

For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.

For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.

'Welcome to Year Four' Parent Information Session

On Tuesday 8th September at 9am, we will be running a short parent workshop to welcome you to Year Four and to familiarise yourselves with our routines and expectations. We hope to see you there. Please arrive outside the front hall doors.

School Trip Plans

This year we plan two main trips, alongside our usual local fieldtrips. The first trip we plan for Term 2 to support our learning about the Romans – more information will be sent later this term. We also hope for another trip in Term 2, to support our learning around the impact of World War 2 on Bristol.